

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-6, 9, 11-14, and 17 as follows. Please cancel claims 15, 16, 18, and 19 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

arranging, in a mobile system between a base station controller and base stations, telecommunication channels which are available for a plurality of base stations but not permanently allocated to any base station,

classifying said arranged telecommunication channels on the basis of their characteristics into at least two categories including primary telecommunication channels and secondary telecommunication channels,

allocating in call set-up at least one of said primary telecommunication channels between the base station controller and the base stations to the base station handling the call if available, and otherwise allocating in call set-up at least one of said secondary telecommunication channels between the base station controller and the base stations to the base station handling the call, and

controlling the base station controller to transmit information to the base station to indicate for the base station the telecommunication channel between the base station controller and the base station allocated thereto.

2. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said telecommunication channels are circuit-switched[[,]].

~~said telecommunication channels are classified on the basis of their characteristics into at least two categories including primary telecommunication channels and secondary telecommunication channels, and~~

~~in call set up, a primary telecommunication channel, if available, is allocated to the base station, otherwise a free secondary telecommunication channel is allocated thereto.~~

3. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim—21, wherein said free telecommunication channels are classified into categories on the basis of their data transmission capacity or quality such that the primary telecommunication channels have larger data transmission capacity or they are of better quality than the secondary telecommunication channels.

4. (Currently Amended)A system, comprising:

a base station controller,

a plurality of optional telecommunication channels, which are not permanently allocated to any base station, available between said base station controller and base stations, said optional telecommunication channels being classified on the basis of their

characteristics into at least two categories including primary telecommunication channels and secondary telecommunication channels,

at least a first and a second base station, which comprise transceiver units configured to establish a telecommunication connection by radio signals to the subscriber terminals located in the base station coverage area and a switching unit configured to switch the base station transceiver units onto a particular channel of said plurality of optional telecommunication channels between the base station controller and the base stations,

the base station controller comprises a controller which in call set-up allocates at least one of said primary telecommunication channels between said base station controller and said base stations to the first or the second base station for the call if available, and otherwise allocates at least one of said secondary telecommunication channels between the base station controller and the first or second base station for the call and which transmit a predetermined message indicating the allocated telecommunication channel to the base station to whom the channel is allocated, and

the switching unit of the first, and correspondingly, of the second base station are responsive to said message for switching the base station transceiver units to the telecommunication channel assigned by said message.

5. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said telecommunication channels are circuit-switched telecommunication channels, ~~that are~~

~~classified on the basis of their characteristics into at least two categories, that is, into primary telecommunication channels and secondary telecommunication channels, and said controller allocates in call set up a primary telecommunication channel, if available, to the call, otherwise a free, secondary telecommunication channel is allocated thereto.~~

6. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim ~~54~~, wherein the primary telecommunication channels have larger data transmission capacity or they are of better quality than the secondary telecommunication channels.

7. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said message indicating the allocated telecommunication channel also indicates a radio channel to be used in the call to the transceiver unit of the base station.

8. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said system is a global system for mobile communications (GSM) system and said message consists of a CHANNEL ACTIVATION message in accordance with the GSM specifications part 08.58, to which is added information on the telecommunication channel allocated to the base station.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

transceiver units configured to establish a telecommunication connection by radio signals to subscriber terminals located in a coverage area of the apparatus, and

a switching unit configured to connect the transceiver units in call set-up to a base station controller via particular channels of a plurality of optional telecommunication channels which are classified on the basis of their characteristics into at least two categories which are classified on the basis of their characteristics into at least two categories including primary telecommunication channels and secondary telecommunication channels, and which are available between said base station controller and base stations of said system and which are not permanently allocated to any base station, said switching unit being responsive to a message received by the apparatus in conjunction with the call set-up for switching a particular transceiver unit onto the telecommunication channel between the base station controller and the apparatus indicated by the message for the call, said telecommunication channel being a primary telecommunication channel, if available, other wise a free secondary telecommunication channel.

10. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein said particular transceiver unit comprises an applying unit configured to apply a radio channel assigned by the message for the duration of the call to be established.

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

means for a base station controller for communicating with base stations via a plurality of optional telecommunication channels, which are classified on the basis of their characteristics into at least two categories including primary telecommunication channels and secondary telecommunication channels, and which are not permanently allocated to any base station, between the apparatus and the base stations, and

control means for a base station controller for allocating in call set-up at least one of said primary telecommunication channels between the apparatus and the base stations to a base station for a call if available, and otherwise for allocating at least one of said secondary telecommunication channels between the apparatus and the base stations for the call, and for transmitting a predetermined message indicating the allocated telecommunication channel to the base station to whom the channel is allocated.

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a communicating unit for a base station controller configured to communicate with base stations via a plurality of optional telecommunication channels, which are classified on the basis of their characteristics into at least two categories including primary telecommunication channels and secondary telecommunication channels, and which are not permanently allocated to any base station, between the apparatus and the base stations, and

a controller for a base station controller configured to allocate in call set-up at least one of said primary telecommunication channels between the apparatus and the base

station to a base station for a call if available, and otherwise for allocating at least one of said secondary telecommunication channels between the apparatus and the base station to a base station for a call and to transmit a predetermined message indicating the allocated telecommunication channel to the base stations to whom the channel is allocated.

13. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

base stations and telecommunication channels which are classified on the basis of their characteristics into at least two categories including primary telecommunication channels and the secondary telecommunication channels, and which are available for a plurality of base stations but not permanently allocated to any base station, between a base station controller and the base stations,

allocating means for allocating in call set-up at least one of said primary telecommunication channels between the base station controller and the base stations to the base station handling the call if available, and otherwise for allocating in call set-up at least one of said secondary telecommunication channels between the base station controller and the base stations to the base station handling the call, and

controlling means for controlling the base station controller to transmit information to the base station to indicate for the base station the telecommunication channel between the base station controller and the base stations allocated thereto.

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

transceiver means for establishing a telecommunication connection by radio signals to subscriber terminals located in a coverage area of the apparatus, and

switching means for connecting the transceiver means in call set-up to a base station controller via particular channels of a plurality of optional telecommunication channels available between said base station controller and base stations of said system and which are classified on the basis of their characteristics into at least two categories including primary telecommunication channels and secondary telecommunication channels and not permanently allocated to any base station, said switching means being responsive to a message received by the apparatus in conjunction with the call set-up for switching a particular transceiver means onto the telecommunication channel between the base station controller and the apparatus indicated by the message for the call, said telecommunication channel being a primary telecommunication channel, if available, otherwise a free secondary telecommunication channel.

Claim 15. (Canceled)

Claim 16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 16⁹, wherein said free telecommunication channels are classified into categories on the basis of their data transmission capacity or quality such that the primary telecommunication channels have

larger data transmission capacity or they are of better quality than the secondary telecommunication channels.

Claim 18. (Canceled)

Claim 19. (Canceled)